Exhibit 9

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

IN RE THOMAS TRAINS PAINT LITIGATION

DOCUMENT RELATES TO:

Hesse v. Learning Curve Brands Inc., et al., No. 07 C 3514

Deke v. RC2 Corp. et al, No. 07 CV 3609

Walton v. RC2 Corp. et al, No. 07 CV 3614

O'Leary v. Learning Curve Brands, Inc., No. 07 C 3682

Djurisic v. Apax Partners, Inc. et al, No. 07 C 3707;

Reddell v. Learning Curve Brands, Inc. et al., No. 07 C 3747;

Rhode v. Learning Curve Brands, Inc. et al, No. 07 C 4187;

Kreiner v. RC2 Corp. et al., No. 07 C 4547;

Wilson v. RC2 Corp. et al, No. 07 CV 4642

Lead Case No. 07 C 3514

JUDGE LEINENWEBER MAG. JUDGE NOLAN

FIRST SET OF REQUESTS TO ADMIT TO DEFENDANTS PURSUANT TO FED. R. CIV. P. 36

Pursuant to Rule 36 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs request that

Defendants make the following admissions of the truth of the matters set forth in each request
within thirty (30) days from the date of service of these requests to admit.

`I. INSTRUCTIONS

1. All information is to be divulged which is in the possession of Defendants, their attorneys, investigators, agents, employees, or other representatives.

- 2. If the Defendant is unable to provide a complete admission or denial, then state why a complete admission or denial cannot be provided, what information or documents would be required to provide a complete admission or denial, and identify which person, if any, has the required information or documents, or the circumstances surrounding the destruction of such documents or information.
- 4. If the attorney-client privilege, "work-product" limited immunity, or any other privilege is claimed as to any information, communication or document, state the date of such document or communication; identify the person who authorized, prepared, or participated in preparing such document or communication and identify the person to whom it was directed, sent, or circulated, identify the person now in possession of such document or who knows the content of such communication, and state the general subject matter of the document or communication, and the basis for the claim of privilege as to each said document or communication.

II. **DEFINITIONS**

1. Plaintiffs incorporate the Definitions from Plaintiffs' First Request for Production of Documents To Defendants RC2 Corporation, Learning Curve Brands, Inc. f/k/a RC2 Brands, Inc. as though fully set forth herein.

III. RELEVANT TIME PERIOD

Unless otherwise stated in a request, the relevant time period is January 1, 2001 to the present.

IV. REQUESTS TO ADMIT

A. Basics

- 1. Admit that you distributed the Recalled Toys.
- 2. Admit that you sold the Recalled Toys.

- 3. Admit that you placed the Recalled Toys on the market.
- 4. Admit that the Plaintiffs were among the intended purchasers of the Recalled Toys.
 - 5. Admit that parents were among the intended purchasers of the Recalled Toys.
- 6. Admit that the Plaintiffs' children were among the intended users of the Recalled Toys.
 - 7. Admit that children are among the intended users of the Recalled Toys.

B. Marketing

- 8. Admit that you market Thomas & Friends toys.
- 9. Admit that one of your websites is located at www.learningcurve.com.
- 10. Admit that, on the website <u>www.learningcurve.com</u>, you assured parents that you wanted to help parents keep their children healthy, happy and safe.
- 11. Admit that the following representation appeared on the website www.learningcurve.com: "We understand that what matters most to parents is keeping their children healthy, happy and safe. What matters most to us is helping parents do just that by offering products for every stage of your child's development...."
- 12. Admit that the following representation appeared on the website www.learningcurve.com: "Learning Curve offers developmental toys that engage children, and provide parents with peace of mind, knowing their children are being inspired and enlightened by safe and quality playthings."

C. Lead Paint

- 13. Admit that lead is invisible to the naked eye.
- 14. Admit that lead has no smell.

- 15. Admit that the CPSC banned paint containing in excess of 0.06% lead by weight intended for consumer use.
- 16. Admit that the CPSC banned toys and other articles intended for use by children that use paint with a lead content in excess of 0.06%.
- 17. Admit that the CPSC banned toys and other articles intended for use by children that use paint with a lead content in excess of 0.06%.because they present a risk of lead poisoning to children.
 - 18. Admit that lead paint can be poisonous to children if ingested.
- 19. Admit that the U.S. Center for Disease Control has set a blood lead "level of concern" of 10 micrograms per deciliter of blood.
- 20. Admit that, according to the National Safety Council, it only takes the lead dust equivalent of a single grain of salt for a child to register an elevated blood lead level.
- 21. Admit that it only takes the lead dust equivalent of a single grain of salt for a child to register an elevated blood lead level.
- 22. Admit that a universally recognized method for testing lead levels in humans is a blood test.
- 23. Admit that blood lead test results can be compared to the published standard of 10 ug/dl, established by the CDC.

D. The Recalled Toys

- 24. Admit that you distributed Thomas & Friends Toys that were painted with red surface paint containing lead.
- 25. Admit that you sold Thomas & Friends Toys that were painted with red surface paint containing lead.

- Admit that you distributed Thomas & Friends Toys that were painted with yellow 26. surface paint containing lead.
- Admit that you sold Thomas & Friends Toys that were painted with yellow 27. surface paint containing lead.
- Admit that you distributed Knights of Sword toys that were painted with surface 28. paint containing lead.
- Admit that you sold Knights of Sword toys that were painted with surface paint 29. containing lead.
- Admit that, on June 14, 2007, the CPSC announced a voluntary recall of the 30. following Thomas & Friends Toys: Red James Engine & Red James' #5 Coal Tender, Red Lights & Sounds James Engine & Red James' #5 Lights & Sounds Coal Tender, James with Team Colors Engine & James with Team Colors #5 Coal Tender, Red Skarloey Engine, Brown & Yellow Old Slow Coach, Red Hook & Ladder Truck & Red Water Tanker Truck, Red Musical Caboose, Red Sodor Line Caboose, Red Coal Car labeled "2006 Day Out With Thomas" on the Side, Red Baggage Car, Red Holiday Caboose, Red "Sodor Mail" Car, Red Fire Brigade Truck, Red Fire Brigade Train, Deluxe Sodor Fire Station, Red Coal Car, Yellow Box Car, Red Stop Sign, Yellow Railroad Crossing Sign, Yellow "Sodor Cargo Company" Cargo Piece, Smelting Yard, and the Ice Cream Factory (collectively, "First Thomas Recall Toys").
- 31. Admit that a true and correct copy of one of Defendants' "Replacement Request" forms is attached as Exhibit A.
- Admit that the First Thomas Recall Toys were sold throughout the United States 32. from January 2005 through June 2007.

- 33. Admit that the First Thomas Recall Toys sold in retail stores for between \$10.00 and \$70.00.
- 34. Admit that you distributed at least 1.5 million units of the First Thomas Recall Toys prior to the recall.
- 35. Admit that, on September 26, 2007, the CPSC announced a voluntary recall of Knights of Sword toys.
- 36. Admit that you distributed at least 800 units of the Knights of Sword toys that were subject to a recall.
- 37. Admit that, on September 26, 2007, the CPSC announced a voluntary recall of the following Thomas & Friends Toys: All Black Cargo Car included in the Brendam Fishing Dock Set; "Toad" vehicle with brake lever; Olive Green Sodor Cargo Box included in the Deluxe Cranky the Crane; All Green Maple Tree Top included in the Conductor's Figure 8 Set; and Green Signal Base included in the Conductor's Figure 8 Set (collectively, "Second Thomas Recall Toys").
- 38. Admit that you distributed at least 200,000 units of the Second Thomas Recall Toys prior to the recall.
- 39. Admit that the Second Thomas Recall Toys were sold throughout the United States from March 2003 through September 2007.
- 40. Admit that the Second Thomas Recall Toys sold in retail stores for between \$10.00 and \$40.00.
- 41. Admit that you distributed the "Toad" vehicle with brake lever that was subject to the September 26, 2007 voluntary recall to some owners of Recalled Toys that had returned Recalled Toys to you.

- 42. Admit that you distributed replacement toys that were not in their original packaging to owners of Recalled Toys that had returned Recalled Toys to you.
- 43. Admit that you distributed replacement toys without including the original packaging to owners of Recalled Toys that had returned Recalled Toys to you.
- 44. Admit that you distributed replacement toys with chipped paint to owners of Recalled Toys that had returned Recalled Toys to you.
- Admit that you distributed replacement toys that had been repainted to owners of 45. Recalled Toys that had returned Recalled Toys to you.

E. Illinois Headquarters

- 46. Admit that your headquarters are in Illinois.
- 47. Admit that You conduct the following business from or in your Illinois headquarters: all or part of the negotiation of your licenses for the Thomas & Friends name.
- 48. Admit that You conduct the following business from or in your Illinois headquarters: all or part of the sale of your Thomas & Friends Toys to retail stores and other distributors.
- Admit that You conduct the following business from or in your Illinois 49. headquarters: all or part of the marketing of your Thomas & Friends Toys.
- 50. Admit that You conduct the following business from or in your Illinois headquarters: all or part of the advertising of your Thomas & Friends Toys.
- 51. Admit that You conduct the following business from or in your Illinois headquarters: the oversight of some or all of your relationships with suppliers in China.
- Admit that You conduct the following business from or in your Illinois 52. headquarters: all or part of your communications with the CPSC.

53. Admit that you conduct the following business from or in your Illinois headquarters: the development of your strategy surrounding the recall.

F. Prior Recall

- 54. Admit that, in 2003, RC2 acquired Learning Curve International, Inc, and certain of its affiliates.
- 55. Admit that, in April 2003, Defendants and the CPSC announced a recall of two Lamaze-brand products due to their lead content.
- 56. Admit that the 2003 recall included approximately 3,800 children's activity toys because the point on the metal wires of these toys contained excessive levels of lead.

G. Injury and Damages

- 57. Admit that You anticipated that one or more children would put the Thomas & Friends Toys in their mouths.
- 58. Admit that a child who placed a Thomas & Friends toy painted with lead paint in their mouth was exposed to lead paint.
- 59. Admit that you have refused to provide a refund to Plaintiffs for the cost of the First Thomas Recall Toys.
- 60. Admit that you have refused to provide a refund to any owner for the cost of the First Thomas Recall Toys.
- 61. Admit that you have refused to provide a refund to Plaintiffs for the cost of the Second Thomas Recall Toys.
- 62. Admit that you have refused to provide a refund to any owner for the cost of the Second Thomas Recall Toys.
- 63. Admit that you have refused to pay for the costs of lead testing for any person that owns a Recalled Toy.

64. Admit that you have refused to pay for the costs of lead testing for any child that has played with a Recalled Toy.

Dated: November 15, 2007

By: /s/ Elizabeth A. Fegan

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EXHIBIT A

Replacement Request Form - Wooden Vehicle & Train Set Components Recall (U.S.)

The following is a list of recalled items from the Thomas & Friends Wooden Railway. If you own one of these items, please return it to us for replacement and a free gift. Please mail the item and this form to the following address:

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If you reside outside of the United States or Canada, please call 866-725-4407 or email recalls@rc2corp.com for further instructions. DO NOT use this form.

Please allow 6-8 weeks for replacement processing.

NOTE: Please do not return entire set. Return only the specific part listed.									
Date:					riscant orny at	O Spool	ne partisted.		
Parent or Adult Name Only:			Street Address:						
Phone:				City/State/Zip:					
E-mail:									
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	Red James Engine			Red Musical Caboose			Red "Sodor Mail" Car		
	Red James # 5 Coal Tender	•		Red Sodor Line Caboose			Red Coal Car		
	Red Lights & Sounds James Engine	3		Red Holiday Caboose	3		Red "2006 Day Out With Thomas" Coal Car		
	Red # 5 Lights & Sounds Coal Tender	3		Red Fire Brigade Train	4		Yellow & Green Box Car		
	James Engine w/Team Colors			Red Fire Brigade Truck			Yellow "Sodor Cargo Co." Cargo Piece		
	James # 5 Coal Tender w/Team Colors	178 E 17		Red Hook & Ladder Truck			Red Stop Sign	(TO)	
	Red Skarloey Engine			Red Water Tanker Truck			Yellow Railroad Crossing Sign	2	
	Brown & Yellow Old Slow Coach			Red Baggage Car					
	Deluxe Sodor Fire Station			Sodor Smelting Yan			Sodor Ice Cream Factory		

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Elizabeth A. Fegan, certify that on November 15, 2007, I caused to be served on the following counsel Plaintiffs' FIRST SET OF REQUESTS TO ADMIT TO DEFENDANTS PURSUANT TO FED. R. CIV. P. 36 via electronic mail.

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